

REMARKS

Claims 2-8 are pending in the application. In the Office action dated November 10, 2008, claims 2-8 were rejected, and claim 8 was allowed. Responsive to the Office action, Applicant has canceled claim 4 and amended claims 2, 3, and 5-7. In view of the above amendments, Applicant respectfully suggest that the application is in condition for allowance, and requests reconsideration under 37 C.F.R., § 1.111.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claim 8 is allowable. Applicant is grateful for the indication of allowable subject matter.

The Examiner has also paraphrased the subject matter of the allowed claim as part of the stated reasons for allowance. The Applicant agrees with the Examiner's conclusion regarding the patentability of the allowed claims, without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, Applicant believes that the claims are allowable because the prior art fails to disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter recited in the allowed claims, independent of how the subject matter of one or more of these claims may be paraphrased or otherwise described.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 4, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pinckney (U.S. Patent no. 2,797,886) in view of Froehlich (U.S. Patent no. 3,600,764).

Claims 2, 3, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pinckney in view of Froehlich as applied to claim 4, and further in view of Burleigh et al. (U.S. Patent no. 2,310,835).

Without acquiescing in the Examiner's rejection of claims 2-4, and 5-7, Applicant has canceled independent claim 4 and amended claims 2, 3, and 5-7 to depend from allowed claim 8.

As the subject matter of claim 8 has previously been deemed allowable by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully suggests that claims 2, 3, and 5-7 are now in condition for allowance, and that the rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

Applicant believes that in view of the above amendments and remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowability covering the pending claims.

CERTIFICATE OF E-FILING

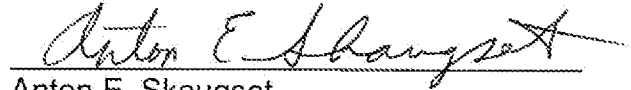
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically via the United States Patent and Trademark Office's EFS-Web System on February 9, 2009.



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Respectfully submitted,

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